Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 NEA-14 SAM-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /150 W

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R 111530Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8653

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR CY UN

SUBJECT: U.S. STATEMENT ON CYPRUS

REF: STATE 122722 (NOTAL)

- 1. CHARGE CONFIRMED TO FOREIGN MINISTRY (VENIAMIN) THAT AMB. SCHAUFELE HAD SAID "PEOPLE" RATHER THAN "PEOPLES" IN HIS MAY 29 STATEMENT TO UNSC ON UNFICYP RENEWAL. WENT ON TO EXPLAIN THAT DEPT BELIEVED THAT IT WOULD BE UNWISE TO GENERATE FUTHER PUBLIC SEMANTIC DISPUTES BY ISSUING A PUBLIC CORRECTION. SAID THAT WE WOULD, HOWEVER, BE CORRECTING THE PRESS RELEASE FOR THE TURK CYPRIOTS, WHO HAD RAISED SAME QUESTION.
- 2. VENIAMIN SAID AFTER REFLECTION THAT GOCYPRUS WOULD NOT PRESS FOR PUBLIC CORRECTION OF RELEASE. (FORTUNATELY HE HAD JUST MADE PRESENTATION FOR ASSISTANCE IN DEVELOPMENT FINANCING, SEPTEL.)
- 3. VENIAMIN WENT ON TO SAY THAT POINT IN SCHAUFELE SPEECH CONFIDENTIAL

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WHICH HAD CAUSED ALMOST AS MUCH TROUBLE AS PLURAL "PEOPLES"

WAS STATEMENT THAT PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTAINING PEACE AND INTERNAL ORDER RESTED WITH "THE PARTIES." VENIAMIN SAID FOREIGN MINISTRY WAS DRAFTING INSTRUCTIONS TO AMB. DIMI-TRIOU TO RAISE THIS POINT, BUT AFTER SOME DISCUSSION HE INDICATED THT APPROACH, IF MADE, WOULD BE IN VERY LOW KEY. (NOTE: POINT HERE IS THAT, AS VENIAMIN CORRECTLY OBSERVES, RESPONSIBILITY IF ASSIGNED EXPLICITLY TO GOVT OF CYPRUS, NOT TO UNIDENTIFIED "PARTIES." IN CYPRIOT EFFORT TO ESTABLISH ITS OWN SOVEREIGNTY, THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT DISTINCTION. REASON THAT CYPRUS TENDS TO GET NERVOUS ABOUT PROPOSALS TO CHANGE THE NATURE OF THE FORCE CENTERS UPON THIS QUESTION OF THE MANDATE. GOCYPRUS IS FEARFUL THAT ANY CHANCE IN THE MANDATE WOULD DIMINISH THE CLEAR ASSIGNMENT OF SOVEREIGN RESPONSIBILITY TO THE GOCYPRUS, WOULD ASSIGN A MORE SWEEPING AUTHORITY TO UNFICYP, OR WOULD EXPLICITLY RECOGNIZE OTHER PARTIES' RESPONSIBILITIES AND RIGHT. IN FORTH-COMING DISCUSSIONS OF UNFICYP WE CAN EXPECT GOCYPRUS TO BE MORE CONCERNED AT ANY THREAT OF A CHANGE IN THE MANDATE THAN IT IS ABUT UNFICYP'S SIZE. IT WAS THIS CONCERN WHICH LED GOCYPRUS LAST DEC. TO BE SO OBDURATE ABOUT UK-PROPOSED CHANGE IN UNSC RESOLUTION, WHICH GOC SUSPECTED WAS AN EFFORT TO ESTABLISH A ROLE FOR OTHER PARTIES.

4. UNFICYP SIZE. CHARGE ASKED WHETHER GOCYPRUS HAD CHANGED ITS PREVIOUS POSITION THAT IT TOOK NO VIEW AS TO APPROPRIATE SIZE OF UNFICYP. CITED ROSSIDES STATEMENT ON MAY 29, AND VIENNA 4521 WHICH QUOTED AUSTRIANS AS SAYING VENIAMIN HAD MADE STRONG CASE AGAINST CUTS IN NEAR FUTURE. VENIAMIN SAID GOCYPRUS HAD DECIDED TO GO ALONG WITH UNSYG IN HIS CLEAR DESIRE TO AVOID FURTHER CUTS AT THIS TIME. ACCORDING TO VENIAMIN. THIS WAS INTENDED TO SHOWSUPPORT FOR HIM, NOT TO REFLECT AN INDEPENDENT DECISION CONCERNING UNFICYP SIZE. VENIAMIN REITERATED THAT THE KEY POINT IS THE NATURE OF THE MANDATE (SEE PARA 3 ABOVE), NOT THE SIZE. (NOTE: FOREIGN MINISTER CHRISTOPHIDES ON JUNE 6 WENT SOME-WHAT FARTHER, SAID THAT BECAUSE OF THE AEGEAN PROBLEMS AND TALKS DEADLOCK, CYPRUS HAD FELT "FOR THE MOMENT" FURTHER UNFICYP REDUCTION SHOULD BE DEFERRED. HE INSISTED THIS WAS A TEMPORARY THING.) CHARGE CITED SCHAUFELE'S STATEMENT AND ARGUMENTS FROM STATE 108140, SAID WE WOULD BE CON-CONFIDENTIAL.

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TINUING TO ADDRESS NEED FOR RATIONALIZATION OF UNFICYP, ASSUMED THAT OUR POSITIONS WERE CLOSE TOGETHER SINCE BOTH FELT MANDATE REVISION WAS UNNECESSARY OR (IN CYPRUS' CASE) UNDESIRABLE. WE HOPED CYPRUS WOULD RECOGNIZE LEGITIMACY OF OUR INTEREST IN REDUCTION SINCE OTHER PARTIES OF COURSE WOULD WANT TO KNOW THE CYPRIOT POSITION. IF UNFICYP IS LIKELY TO BE NEEDED FOR THE LONG HAUL, FAILURE TO BRING IT TO FINANCIALLY MANAGEABLE LEVEL COULD IMPERIL ITS VERY

EXISTENCE. VENIAMIN SAID THIS WAS A STRONG ARGUMENT FOR REDUCTION, BUT DID NOT FURTHER COMMIT HIMSELF AS TO GOCYPRUS LINE IN COMING MONTHS (COMMENT: GOCYPRUS BECOMING AWARE OF ITS FINANCIAL PROBLEMS, MAYBE COMING TO APPRECIATE UNFICYP SPENDING HERE.)
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